

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2013 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 6 **Fall Announcement # 6, District 1 Commercial Period 3** Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

Based the 2013 summer chum salmon run, the projected fall chum salmon run size is expected to be greater than 900,000 fish. This level of abundance should be adequate to meet escapement and subsistence priorities and provide for commercial harvest.

Fall chum salmon have been entering Yukon River at a steady rate although the first pulse has not been observed. Through July 23, the cumulative fall chum salmon passage past Pilot Station sonar is 45,154 fish, which is below the historical median of 57,581 for that date.

District Y-1

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in the **Coastal Set Net Only Area** of District Y-1 on Thursday, July 25 from 3:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight. This will be a 9-hour commercial fishing period for the **Coastal Set Net Only Area** with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh.

The remainder of District Y-1 will be open to commercial fishing on Thursday, July 25 from 6:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight. This will be a 6-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh.

For the entire District Y-1, no Chinook salmon can be sold during this commercial opening. Fishermen can release live Chinook salmon or use them for subsistence purposes. **Chinook salmon caught but not sold must be reported on fish tickets.**

Preliminary results from the District Y-1 commercial opening on July 22 indicate a harvest of 16,404 fall chum and 113 coho salmon from 172 permit holders. The preliminary cumulative commercial fall chum harvest for District Y-1 is 20,228 fall chum and 113 coho salmon.

In Districts Y-1, subsistence salmon fishing is now open during the fall season 7 days per week except for 12 hours before, during, and 12 hours after each commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to a maximum mesh size of 7.5 inches. In District Y-1 subsistence salmon fishing will close at 3:00 a.m. Thursday, July 25, and reopen at 12:00 noon Friday, July 26.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 949-1731 and 459-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks 1-866-479-7387). If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320 or the Fairbanks office at 459-7274. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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